

ENTHUSIASTIC
MASS MEETING

Instructs For Hon. J. Powell Royall For
Senator and Hon. S. P. Mustard For
House of Delegates.

The Republicans of Tazewell met on last Tuesday to select delegates for the Senatorial and Legislative district convention to be held at Richlands on Saturday, August 19th.

Called to order by County Chairman John T. Barnes who stated the object of the meeting was to select delegates to meet in joint convention with Buchanan, Dickenson and Russell counties to nominate a candidate for State Senator from the Third Senatorial District and also delegates to meet with the delegates from Buchanan county and nominate a candidate for the House of Delegates for the counties of Buchanan and Tazewell. Both conventions to meet at Richlands on Saturday, August 19th. After stating the object of the meeting the county chairman called on Hon. W. B. Spratt, of Richlands, to preside. W. G. O'Brien was elected secretary of the meeting.

Under the call Tazewell county was entitled to 28 delegates and 28 alternates, and on motion it was decided they should be appointed as follows:

Clear Fork 9; Jeffersonville 9; Maiden Spring 10, and that the same delegates and alternates serve in both conventions.

The different districts then separated to select their delegates.

On reassembling the following delegates and alternates were announced as the selections for the various districts:

DELEGATES—T. R. Smoot, J. E. Morton, Frank Pyott, J. G. Gillespie, W. L. Mustard, J. G. Ward, J. Walter Graybeal, R. L. Gillespie, H. C. Calloway, H. S. Bowen, Rass Carter, R. C. Wells, S. H. Wingo, C. W. Pierce, S. P. Mustard, J. A. Buckland, Alex Long, Wm. Pruett.

ALTERNATES—J. H. Gillespie, Jr., C. C. Wilson, R. P. Harman, Jeff Neel, C. W. Matthews, F. M. Moss, Jas. Woolridge, T. B. Bailey, J. D. Billips, E. G. Compton, John L. Armes, J. Floyd Gillespie, A. S. Peery, W. D. Holbrook, F. M. Shrader, J. P. Crockett, John Carter, Thos. Wilburn.

JEFFERSONVILLE DISTRICT.
Delegates—R. W. Pruett, D. A. Williams, G. O. Bandy, Henry Yost, Ben Bailey, W. L. Moore, A. T. Beavers, E. L. Riley Henry Linkous, Cecil Peery.
ALTERNATES—J. M. Matthews, Wm. Hager, Sterling Yost, John H. Peery, John E. Barnett, Wm. C. Pendleton, C. J. Moss, E. H. Warner, H. A. Bowen, M. K. Dailey.

MAIDEN SPRING DISTRICT.
Delegates—John T. Barnes, W. O. Barnes, M. F. Brown, Henry Ascue, Wm. Witt, W. B. Steele, Ed McGuire, W. B. F. White, Wm. Bandy, S. F. Allison.
ALTERNATES—R. T. Bowen, Jr., R. H. McGraw, D. Green, Edmund Tilly, J. A. Higginbotham, George French, D. C. Lowe, F. M. Elswick, T. J. S. Murray, Robt. Shreve.

Attention being called to the fact that some of the districts had selected more than their assigned number of delegates and alternates the districts explained that it had been arranged for their delegates and alternates to cast a proportional part of the vote.

Hon. J. N. Harman then offered the following resolutions:

Resolved: That the list of delegates and alternates selected by the district meetings be declared the delegates and alternates of this mass meeting.

Resolved: That the delegates and alternates and every Republican in good standing, attending the convention, be allowed to participate therein and cast a proportional part of the vote of their respective districts.

Resolved: That in view of the very efficient and faithful manner in which our esteemed fellow citizen, Hon. J. Powell Royall, has heretofore represented us in the House of Delegates of the General Assembly of Virginia, and in response to a general desire expressed upon the part of our people to have him represent us in the Senate of Virginia, we hereby instruct our delegates to the Senatorial convention, to be held at Richlands, Va., on the 19th day of August, 1911, to present his name to said convention for nomination as a candidate for the Senate; and we further instruct our delegates to vote as a unit for his nomination.

Resolved: That the delegates to the legislative district convention of Buchanan and Tazewell counties be hereby instructed to vote as a unit for the nomination of the Hon. S. P. Mustard as the candidate for House of Delegates for these counties.

The mass meeting then adjourned.

Overwhelmed.

During July the Roanoke National Business College was overwhelmed with applications for graduates. Although 600 students enrolled last session, every graduate is now in a position, besides scores and scores of under-graduates have been placed. Even then more than 300 positions went unfilled. A bookkeeper in a bank, and two stenographers for wholesale houses are wanted right now. This college wants neat, willing, intelligent young people with which to fill positions. Read their advertisement in this paper.

BURKES GARDEN NEWS

Items of Interest From the Garden Spot of Virginia.

Burkes Garden, Va., Aug. 8.
Rev. Copenhaver, of Marion, is visiting here.

Miss Katrina Gose is visiting in Pulaski City.

E. L. Greever visited homefolks here last week.

Graham Preston, of Tazewell, is visiting friends here.

Miller Kinzer, of Shawver Mills, was in the Garden Friday.

William Pruett, of Shawver Mills, was in the Garden Thursday.

Rev. J. P. Miller, of Mt. Pleasant, N. C., was in the Garden last week.

Dr. Dunigan was here Saturday doing dental work for Mrs. Steve Boling.

Misses Callie Greever and Josie Londer, of Tazewell, visited here last week.

Mr. and Mrs. John Spracher, of Graham, are visiting Mrs. John Thompson.

Rev. H. M. Fugate, of Farmville, held an interesting meeting here last week.

Misses Barger and Coiler, of Waynesboro, are visiting Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Greever.

Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Moss returned to Tazewell Sunday. Miss Ida Greever is visiting them.

Will Silas Wynn and daughters, of Roanoke, visited his mother, Mrs. Cynthia Wynn, last week.

Mrs. Sallie A. Crockett, of Bluefield, is visiting here daughters, Mrs. Simon Kelly and Mrs. Alletia Crockett.

J. N. Rhudy was in the Garden last week for the purpose of erecting a monument to the memory of the late Dr. James Crockett.

Mrs. J. Meek Hoge visited her son, Jeff Hoge, in Bland county last week. She is now visiting her daughter, Mrs. T. C. Bowen, of Tazewell.

Misses Ethel and Estelle Harman, of Ogden, Utah, visited Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Thompson last week. They are daughters of the late James Harman, formerly of the Garden.

Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Greever gave a porch party to the young people last Thursday night. Every family in the Garden was represented. Mr. "Albert" is considerate of the young folks.

Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Lawson entertained about sixty of the young folks at their home on last Friday night.

Mrs. Lawson is a charming hostess. It was given in honor of their guests, Mr. Percy Veezie, of Baltimore, and Miss Cassard.

Tax Reforms in Virginia.

The above is the title of a pamphlet containing a speech of Dr. Douglas Freeman, the Secretary of the "State Tax Commission," made July 12, 1911, before the Virginia Press Association, at Natural Bridge, Virginia. This speech contains some valuable data and information on the tax situation in Virginia. While no suggestions as to the particular recommendations that will be made to the next General Assembly by this commission are revealed, Dr. Freeman has plainly indicated in his speech that CENTRALIZATION of the taxing power of the State will be strongly recommended.

Unless the people wake up and take a vigorous interest in the election of representatives to the next General Assembly and then keep a close watch on the proceedings of that body, a centralized system of taxation will be fastened upon them that will cause "groans that cannot be uttered."

The power to tax its citizens is one of the greatest powers any government can exercise. Chief Justice Marshall said: "THE POWER TO TAX IS THE POWER TO DESTROY." The farther removed from the people and the more centralized the power is the more distasteful it becomes to the democratic principles of the taxpayers. Such a system destroys the patriotism and loyalty of the citizens to the government. Therefore, I submit that only such subjects of taxation as are absolutely necessary to produce the required revenue should be included within the State's power to tax. I hold with Thomas Jefferson that the less the State interferes with the individual the better for both parties to the social contract.

But Dr. Freeman says: "We must face the facts and acknowledge freely that DECENTRALIZATION in matters of public finance is synonymous with INEQUALITY, UNDERVALUATION and INJUSTICE. Remember, if you please, that there is no statute authority that has any adequate control over land assessors and commissioners of the revenue, who assess property worth \$1,700,000 to the State even under the present system."

Now, with all due deference to the secretary of the State Tax Commission, I would like to ask: "Why should any State authority be exercised over land assessors and commissioners of the revenue, under any tax reform system which the State should adopt? Can any good reason be given why the State should not select a few sources of income which will produce sufficient revenue to pay the expenses of the State government, and leave the real estate and personal property to be taxed by

the counties for all local purposes? The State might enact a general statute, so as to require uniformity among the counties.

In 1909 I was asked to make suggestions as to certain "planks" to be inserted in the Republican platform at the Newport News convention. In response thereto I submitted the following:

"We submit that the paramount issue of this campaign is evidenced by the widespread demand for a more business-like, economical and non-partisan administration of the State government. That the antiquated system of taxation, book-keeping and the manner of paying public officers for their services should be replaced by more efficient and modern methods. The cost of administering our State government has increased by about one-half since the proclamation of the New Constitution. We submit that this is a useless expenditure of the people's money without a corresponding efficiency of public service."

"Looking toward the attainment of a more economical and efficient administration of the government, we favor the enactment of such statutes and such amendments to the Constitution as may be necessary to secure:

"First: The abolishment of the Second Auditor's office; the office of Examiners of Fiduciary Accounts and that of the five District School Examiners or Inspectors;

Second: The election by the people of the members of the State Corporation Commission, the Auditor of Public Accounts; the Division Superintendents of Schools and the Commissioners of the Revenue;

Third: The abolishing of the FEE SYSTEM for State, municipal and for county officers;

"Fourth: The segregation of the several kinds or classes of property, by January 1, 1913, for the purposes of taxation, so that expenses of the State government shall be paid by specific license taxes and taxes on corporations, leaving the real estate and personal property for taxation for local and county purposes, thus relieving the people from the burden of another expensive board, which is now being proposed by the leaders of the Democratic party, to wit: 'The State Board of Equalization of Taxes' and securing to the people their right of local self government in the matter of taxation."

"Fifth: The de-centralization of our government, which is now under the direction of 'an office-holding trust,' administered by commissions, bureaus and boards, appointed by the Governor and the Courts."

In finding a basis for taxation, the revenue derived from the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors should be eliminated, because, as soon as the people are permitted to have the privilege of voting on that question these taxes will doubtless be abolished. It is well to bear in mind also that no present figures as to the cost of State government can be taken, as the correct basis, as several other offices and officers, in addition to those above mentioned, should be dispensed with under the reform system of taxation.

J. N. HARMAN.
Tazewell, Va., Aug. 2, 1911.

Richlands News.

Richlands, Va., Aug. 8th.
R. D. Stinson spent Sunday here with his parents.

Joe Griffith spent Saturday and Sunday in Bluefield.

W. B. Spratt was a business visitor to Tazewell today.

Logan Ringstaff, of Pounding Mill, was a visitor here Saturday.

F. F. Hurt was transacting business in Bluefield one day last week.

Miss Ethel Pobst, of Tazewell, is the guest of Miss Ollie Stinson of this place.

Clarence Hankins, of this place, left on No. 6 Sunday for a visit to Lynchburg.

Miss Edna Donahoe is spending the week with friends in Honaker and Elk Garden.

Mr. Baker is putting an addition to his shoe shop, which adds greatly to its appearance.

Misses Bertha and Lena Scott and Pearl McGuire were shopping here one day last week.

Miss Nell Yost left on train No. 12 Saturday for Graham, where she will spend some time friends.

Charles Griffith, of Whitewood, was here Monday night the guest of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Griffith.

An enjoyable time among the young people here was had Wednesday night of last week on a hay-ride to Cedar Bluff.

F. F. Hurt, Mrs. Hurt and little son, Earl Garner, of this place, spend Sunday and Monday with the former's parents at Gardner, Va.

Quite a number from this place went to Blackford picnicking on last Thursday. Among the crowd were: Mrs. Hutton, Miss Sexton, Miss Barrett, Miss Clark, Miss Brown and Mrs. Meade.

Till the last of August John S. Bottimore will sell spring and summer suits and pants at cost.

LARGEST COAL
PRODUCTION

Virginia Breaks Record in 1910 With
Output of Over Six and a Half
Million Tons.

Virginia's coal production is steadily increasing. The total output of the State in 1910 was 6,507,997 short tons, with a spot value of \$5,877,496, according to Edward W. Parker, coal statistician of the United States Geological Survey.

Virginia established two new records in the statistics of her coal production in 1910; first in quantity of coal produced (6,507,997 short tons), and second, in the amount and percentage of increase over the preceding year. The production in 1909, 4,752,217 short tons, had exceeded all previous records, but this was beaten in 1910 by unprecedented increase of 1,755,780 tons, nearly 37 per cent. The value increased \$1,626,430, or 38 per cent, from \$4,251,066 to \$5,877,496. Although little if any of the Virginia product was shipped to the West to make up the deficiency caused by the prolonged strike in the mines of the Mississippi Valley States, the shortage in those States was the indirect cause of the remarkable increase in Virginia's tonnage. The strike in the Middle West naturally created an unusual demand upon the coal mines of West Virginia, and a large part of the production of that State, customarily sent to the seaboard, was diverted to the temporarily more profitable market in the West. This demand in turn gave opportunity for a larger outlet to the seaboard for Virginia coals, an opportunity of which Virginia coal men were not slow to take advantage.

Virginia stands well among the States in the quantity of coal produced for each man employed. In 1910 the number of men employed was 7,264, who worked an average of 241 days. The average production per man was 896 tons for the year, and 3.72 tons for each day. Both of these averages are better than those shown in the majority of the coal-producing States. Most of the miners in the State work 10 hours a day. Of the 7,264 men employed in 1910, 5,710 worked 10 hours and 1,021 worked 9 hours. Only one mine was reported as working 8 hours.

To Virginia belongs the distinction of having produced the first bituminous coal mined in the United States. This initial output, however, was not derived from that portion of the State which now gives Virginia some prominence as a producer of coal, but was obtained from what is generally known as the Richmond basin, a small area near the city of Richmond.

The existence of coal in the Richmond basin was known as early as 1700, though mining did not begin until the latter part of the century. In 1789 shipments were made to some of the Northern States. In 1822 according to

to Mr. R. C. Taylor, in his "Statistics of Coal," the production amounted to 54,000 short tons. For nearly a century the Richmond basin maintained some prominence as a coal producer, but when, in 1882, the Pocahontas district was opened up, and especially when, soon afterward, the New River field, in West Virginia, was developed, the mines in Richmond basin were put at a disadvantage and operations in them were for a number of years practically suspended.

The mining of coal in Southwestern Virginia, whence the present production chiefly comes, began with the completion of the New River division of the Norfolk and Western Railroad in 1883, in which year the first carload of Pocahontas coal was shipped to Norfolk and distributed among the poor. During the next 10 years nearly the entire production of the State was obtained from this locality in Tazewell County, which forms a part of the famous Pocahontas-Flat Top coal field. The development of the coal resources of Lee County was begun in 1905, in the area known as the "Pocket" district. This district is chiefly contained in what is known as Black Mountain, a portion of the Cumberland Range. Here no less than twelve separate beds of workable thickness have been located, and several mining operations are in progress, as shown by the production in 1910. Most of the coal is of high-grade steam and coking quality. Although the coal fields of southwestern Virginia are of comparatively small extent, the high quality of the coal and the number and thickness of the beds give promise of a considerably increased production within the next few years.

WHITEWOOD ITEMS

News of Interest From the Little
Buchanan County Town.

Whitewood, Va., Aug. 8th.

B. P. Elswick was a recent visitor to Richlands.

Bart Colley has returned from a visit to his family at Clintwood.

Mrs. J. B. McNeil is visiting her parents in Lawrence county, Ky.

Mr. and Mrs. James Shelton are the proud parents of a fine baby girl.

Sam Ward was called to Pounding Mill last Sunday by the illness of his wife.

Dr. Ritter had the misfortune to lose a valuable cow the other day by over-feeding.

Our old friend, W. O. Young, of Honaker, was attending lodge here Saturday night.

Henderson Johnson, of Swords Creek, was visiting at the home of B. R. Johnson here recently.

A lovely baby girl came to bless the home of Mr. and Mrs. B. R. Johnson one day last week.

Miss Lou Gillespie, of Witten's Mills, was the guest of Mrs. Ritter at this place on Sunday last.

The school at this place opened on yesterday with W. M. Grimsley as principal and Miss Lou Gillespie as assistant.

Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Ellis and daughter, Miss Margie, left Sunday for Big Stone Gap, where the former was called on business.

Fuller Ratliff returned from a visit to relatives at Swords Creek and Honaker Saturday, and left for his home at Grundy yesterday.

Mrs. H. S. Bailey and Miss Ethel Bailey, of Richlands, were guests of the latter's sister, Mrs. I. C. Gillespie, a few days last week.

"Uncle Frank" McGraw, of Richlands, entertained our people Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights with his moving picture show.

We understand that Robert L. Clark, of Honaker, was found dead in bed at his home on last Monday morning. He had been in poor health for some time, but his death came as a great shock to his friends.

W. C. Walker has resigned his position as store manager for the C. L. Ritter Lumber Company, and we understand will leave Whitewood within a few days. We regret to lose such an excellent gentleman from our midst.

Rev. Goff preached an interesting sermon at Bethany Sunday morning, quite a crowd from here attending. Among the number we recall were: Mr. and Mrs. Tom Worley, Mr. and Mrs. Harve West, Misses Rachel Nunley, Luella and Nellie Worley, Fuller Ratliff, Chas. Griffith, Will Reese Sparks, Gabe, Harman and Will Worley, Homer Brewster, Harman Walden and Deedy Mullins.

By order of the County Committee.
W. B. SPRATT,
Acting Chairman.
JAMES W. HARMAN,
Secretary.

Call For County Convention.

At a meeting of the Republican Committee for the County of Tazewell held in the town of Tazewell on the 3rd day of August, 1911, it was determined to hold a delegate convention for the purpose of nominating a candidate for clerk of Tazewell county, and in pursuance thereof we have been ordered to call upon the Republican voters of Tazewell county to assemble in precinct meetings on the 26th day of August, 1911, 2:30 p. m., in their respective precincts, at the usual voting places, for the purpose of selecting delegates to said convention to be held at the Courthouse on the 2nd day of September, 1911.

The delegates are to be apportioned upon the vote of the Congressional election of 1910, and each precinct will elect one delegate for each twenty-five (25) Republican votes, or fraction thereof, cast at the precinct in said election of 1910. Precincts that cast only a fraction of twenty-five (25) votes will elect one delegate and one alternate. By this apportionment the various precincts will elect the following number of delegates and alternates:

Jeffersonville 8
North Tazewell 4
Gap Store 5
Thompson Valley 2
Benbow 1
Freestone 1
Pocahontas 3
Graham 5
Abbs Valley 2
Midway 4
Liberty Hill 4
Pony Valley 2
Baptist Valley 3
Lockharts Chapel 3
Pounding Mill 4
Richlands 11
Falls Mills 1
Burkes Garden 2
Cove Creek 2
Gratton 2
Tiptop 2
Bluestone 2
Cedar Bluff 3
Crockett's Cove 3
Dry Fork 2

Total 82

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